

**MINUTES OF  
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 28, 2004**

**Members Present:** Matthew Smith, Chairman; Laurence Mason, Vice-Chairman; J. David Cubbage, William G. Downey, Garrett Moore, William D. Nace, Gary Nelson, Sam Poles and Liz Cook

**Members Absent:** Ann McCarty

**Guests Present:** Robert Dunleavy, Larry Kovalik, Judy Lamana and Chuck Medvitz

**1. Election of Officers.**

Liz Cook asked for nominations for Chairman. Larry Mason nominated Matthew Smith and Gary Nelson seconded. Being no other nominations, Mrs. Cook asked for the vote, which was unanimous. Mrs. Cook turned the meeting over to Mr. Smith.

Mr. Smith asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Sam Poles nominated Larry Mason and Gary Nelson seconded. There were no other nominations, and the vote was unanimous.

Matthew Smith discussed the Transportation Committee's mission to act as a filter for the Board of Supervisors. The Committee is to provide help to the County and VDOT, and to make the Board of Supervisors' job easier. The Committee is an advisory board designed to review primary and secondary roads and other projects and make recommendations on transportation needs.

**2. Approval of October 29, 2003 Committee Meeting Minutes.**

On motion made by Bill Downey and seconded by Sam Poles, it was moved to approve the October 29, 2003 Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

**3. Consider Making a Recommendation on a "Children at Play" Sign for Cobbler Mountain Road – Clara Owens.**

Liz Cook discussed the request. Garrett Moore clarified that it would be a "Watch for Children" sign. Sam Poles asked if the request was related to Dr. Collins' property. Mrs. Cook stated that the letter indicated five children live on the road in the area associated with the request. On motion made by Gary Nelson and seconded by Sam Poles, it was moved to recommend that the Board of Supervisors forward a request to VDOT asking that a "Watch for Children" sign be installed along Cobbler Mountain Road. The motion carried unanimously.

**4. Consider Making a Recommendation on the VDOT/County Blantire Road Agreement for the Lake Whippoorwill Subdivision.**

*Liz Cook advised the Committee that this item would be postponed until the February meeting, as the Agreement had not been taken to the Lake Whippoorwill Homeowners' Association.* There was discussion about the location of the Blantire right-of-way. Mrs. Cook advised the Committee that the

Agreement would be created to clarify who has the maintenance responsibility for this reserved right-of-way. Bill Downey asked about the realignment of Airlie Road and Route 605, and if this Blantire Road right-of-way was in the same location as the former alignment. Dave Cabbage indicated that it was. Mr. Downey asked whether or not the County and VDOT wanted to maintain the excess right-of-way. Mr. Cabbage stated that the Committee might want to consider that when it discusses this item.

**5. *Consider Making a Recommendation on Initiation of the Abandonment of a Portion of Cedar Run Drive and the Establishment of a Permanent Cul-de-Sac.***

The Committee discussed the proposed abandonment. Bill Nace discussed his concerns about the safety impacts of making the connection to Atlee Road from Cedar Run Drive. He indicated that he lives on the road, but is concerned about the safety of such a connection. There was discussion about traffic volumes and the use of the connection to access Route 29 and Route 605. Dave Cabbage indicated that there is an existing connection from the neighborhood from Cedar Run Drive to Millwood Drive then to Atlee Road. With an extension of Cedar Run Drive, only eight houses would be impacted that are not currently impacted by access to Atlee Road.

Garrett Moore indicated that a possible connection of the road is not a safety issue to VDOT, but a capacity issue. Bill Nace indicated that if you make the connection more convenient to get to Route 605, drivers will use the road. Dave Cabbage indicated that drivers are currently able to use a portion of Cedar Run Drive now. Garrett Moore recommended that the County not abandon the right-of-way, because if the connection is needed several years from now, the right-of-way will need to be acquired.

Sam Poles asked that VDOT do a traffic count on Millwood Drive, and that the item be tabled for 60 to 90 days to allow time for the count. Matthew Smith asked the Committee if it wanted the Board of Supervisors to reconsider the initiation to abandon the right-of-way. There was discussion among the Committee members about the traffic impacts of making the connection and the future development in the area. Gary Nelson moved to ask the Board of Supervisors to reconsider the resolution and to consider rescinding the resolution. Sam Poles seconded the motion. The vote was 6-1, with Bill Nace in opposition.

**6. *Consider Making Recommendations/Comments on the VDOT Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodation Plan.***

Mrs. Cook advised the Committee that the County had received notice of the proposed Plan and that comments had been requested by VDOT. Garrett Moore indicated he had made comments about the complexity of the information provided. Gary Nelson advised that he had read the Plan and it seemed to indicate that trails should be provided where they could be located. Dave Cabbage indicated that Culpeper County has a trail plan in its Comprehensive Plan, and that with some of its VDOT road projects provision has been made for trails.

**7. *Receive an Update on the Revenue Sharing Program.***

Garrett Moore handed out State Code information related to the Revenue Sharing Program. He indicated that if the County would put \$500,000 in an account to use for road improvements VDOT would match those funds. The Revenue Sharing Program is a way to augment County funds where growth is out pacing funds and allow Counties to help keep pace with growth. He stated that proffer dollars are often used with Revenue Sharing funds. Matthew Smith asked if the County always participated in the Program. Mrs. Cook indicated that she did not know if the County had ever participated. Garrett Moore agreed that he did not believe that the County had participated in the last several years.

Bill Downey asked if VDOT has a hierarchy of project types that get approved. Garrett Moore indicated that Revenue Sharing projects are typically for local street improvement projects where there would be more impact. He stated these funds would have less of an impact on primary road project due the size of the projects.

The Committee discussed options for use of the funds. Mrs. Cook discussed the Brookside development's escrow funds that are set aside for transportation improvements near the development. She indicated that next year those funds should be in place and available for the Revenue Sharing program. Mrs. Cook suggested that the Committee start looking at possible projects for next year's funding cycle.

Bill Downey asked if the funds could be used for traffic calming projects. Garrett Moore advised that he would look into that option. The Committee discussed other funding options, and the ability to use proffer funds for the Program.

Larry Kovalik, a citizen attending the meeting, asked if using the Revenue Sharing Program would result in fewer proffer dollars from developers. Bill Downey advised that the Board of Supervisors is not interested in lessening impacts to developers.

On motion made by Matthew Smith and seconded by Sam Poles, it was moved to request that the County participate in the VDOT Revenue Sharing Program. The motion carried unanimously.

**8. *Receive an Update on the Through Truck Restriction Guidelines.***

The Committee briefly discussed the VDOT update memo distributed with the packet.

**9. *Fauquier County Code of Ethics.***

Liz Cook advised the Committee that the Board of Supervisors adopted the Code of Ethics, and that it was being forwarded to all the Boards and Commissions for members' compliance. ***Matthew Smith asked that the item be placed on next month's agenda and that all the members return the signed form at that time.***

**10. *Other Items.***

Bill Downey advised Dave Cubbage of the notice he had received about the Gold Cup Race on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

***Garrett Moore advised the Committee he would be bringing the Secondary Six-Year Plan to the Committee in March to permit time for review and discussion.***

Larry Mason asked about the status of the Savannah Branch bridge. Garrett Moore advised that he had just scoped the project. He will be going out with Supervisor Stribling soon to review the project. VDOT may need to close the bridge for 60 days. Keeping the bridge open during construction will approximately double the construction costs, and Mr. Moore wants to visit with Supervisor Stribling about the possibility of closing the bridge. The project would begin in approximately three years. The environmental issues associated with the project are a concern.

Larry Mason indicated his concern about the roughness of the bridge today. Garrett Moore stated that weather may have impacted the bridge and that the bolts may need to be tightened.

Bill Nace stated that it was nice the get to know his follow Committee members.

Sam Poles thanked Mr. Moore for going out with him and Supervisor Atherton to look at some areas of concern in the Marshall District. He asked about the Turnbull study. Garrett indicated that VDOT had not completed the study, as they had been working on some others in the County. It is on VDOT's list to do.

***Sam asked that the Committee send Per Bang-Jensen a letter commending his service to the Committee. They asked Fran to prepare a letter.***

***Sam Poles asked staff to contact Fred Beaudry and ask that he call Mr. Poles or Mr. Moore about his concerns, as noted in the October minutes.***

Gary Nelson asked about the status of the Cross Over Study. Garrett Moore advised that the Board of Supervisors had passed it, but that there were no funds set aside to fund it. Mr. Moore asked if the Board wanted to be notified of improvements being made based on the study. Bill Downey asked if federal funds were available for Route 29, and about the limited access status of Route 29. Garrett Moore indicated that federal funds were not available, but some safety improvement funds might be available over time. Dave Cabbage reminded the Committee that federal safety guidelines and standards were used for the study. Garrett Moore advised that the study was a local initiative about limiting access and making safety improvements. Dave Cabbage stated that the beauty of the study is this is a uniform guide for the County and VDOT to use for improvements to Route 29.

***Gary Nelson asked about the work done on Stillhouse Road at Dr. David Collins' property. Garrett Moore indicated that VDOT would look into the matter.***

Liz Cook mentioned Academy Hill Road as an item the Committee wanted to discuss from its October meeting. There was no interest in the item at this time.

Larry Kovalik expressed concern about the amount of trash located along county roadways. He asked the Committee what could be done about it. Bill Downey asked if he had contacted Keep Fauquier Clean, a group of citizens concerned about the same topic. He advised him to contact Dean Eckleberry, who is the president of Keep Fauquier Clean.

Gary Nelson stated that in his neighborhood they police themselves. He thinks that a clean neighborhood keeps folks from littering.

Matthew Smith stated that the Committee would continue meeting at 7:00 P.M. on the last Wednesday of the month. He asked Garrett Moore if VDOT had done anything about Midland Road at Route 610. Mr. Moore indicated that VDOT does not have the right-of-way to make the necessary improvements, and it will be an expensive project. He advised that the project could be added to the Six-Year Plan.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.